ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system for improving the efficiency of a wireless communications network that employs a plurality of frequencies per cell. The system includes a first mechanism that monitors the network load associated with each of the plurality of frequencies and provides corresponding status values in response thereto. A second mechanism compares the status values to predetermined loading criteria and provides an indication in response thereto when one or more of the status values meet the criteria. A third mechanism redistributes the network load in accordance with the indication. In a specific embodiment, the criteria include one or more predetermined thresholds such that when one or more of the predetermined thresholds is surpassed by the one or more of the status values, the criteria are met. The status values are representative of loading conditions for communications system resources associated with each of the frequencies. The loading conditions are representative of currently available resources allocated for each of the plurality of frequencies. Each status value includes a hardware resource component, an air link resource component, and a handling resource component. Each component is indicative of respective remaining resources. The hardware resource component incorporates the number of currently available channel elements for an associated frequency. The air link resource component incorporates transmit power available for a particular frequency. The handling resource component incorporates the number of available Walsh codes for a particular frequency.